In the Claims:

Claims 1 to 18 (cancelled).

19. (Currently amended) A method of treating a human [reducing the incidence of colorectal cancers in a human in need thereof], which method consists essentially of administering to said ~~mammal~~ human an effective amount of a water soluble, non-fermentable cellulose derivative which is methylcellulose, alone or in combination with an insoluble fiber which is wheat bran, for reducing the incidence of colorectal cancers in said human.

20. (previously presented) The method according to Claim 19 wherein the methylcellulose is formulated into a composition with additional pharmaceutically acceptable carriers or diluents.

21. (previously presented) The method according to Claim 20 wherein the composition is administered as a bulk powder, tablet, capsule or suspension.

22. (previously presented) The method according to Claim 20 wherein the composition comprises a sugar.

23. (previously presented) The method according to Claim 20 wherein the composition optionally comprises lactose, terra alba, sucrose, talc, gelatin, agar, pectin, acacia, magnesium stearate, or stearic acid.

24. (previously presented) The method according to Claim 20 wherein the composition is administered in a rapidly disintegrating tablet.

25. (previously presented) The method according to Claim 19 wherein the total daily dosage of methylcellulose administered is from about 0.4 gram to 30 grams day.

26. (previously presented) The method according to Claim 25 wherein the total daily dosage methylcellulose administered is from about 1 gram to 10 grams day.

27. (currently amended)) A method of treating [reducing the incidence of breast cancer in] a human in need thereof, which method consists essentially of administering to said human an effective amount of a water soluble, non-fermentable

cellulose which is methylcellulose, alone or in combination with an insoluble fiber which is wheat bran, to reduce the incidence of breast cancer in said human.

28. (previously presented) The method according to Claim 27 wherein the methylcellulose is formulated into a composition with additional pharmaceutically acceptable carriers or diluents.

29. (previously presented) The method according to Claim 28 wherein the composition is administered as a bulk powder, tablet, capsule or suspension.

30. (previously presented) The method according to Claim 28 wherein the composition comprises a sugar.

31. (previously presented) The method according to Claim 28 wherein the composition optionally comprises lactose, terra alba, sucrose, talc, gelatin, agar, pectin, acacia, magnesium stearate, or stearic acid.

32. (previously presented) The method according to Claim 28 wherein the composition administered in a rapidly disintegrating tablet.

33. (previously presented) The method according to Claim 27 wherein the total daily dosage of methycellulose administered is from about 0.4 gram to 30 grams day.

34. (previously presented) The method according to Claim 27 wherein the total daily dosage of methylcellulose administered is from about 1 gram to 10 grams day.